being so anxious and troublesome in applying early in behalf of Sir Sidney, who, I am told, is very obnoxious to him—-$oco m'importa.

August 2,0th, 1797.

One of the commissioners of exchange is come to inform me men and opinions are so much changed that I may now get Sir Sidney Smith released, upon our Government ratifying the preliminary convention for a general exchange.

I am most happy to see my ideas and hopes realized, and shall not be surprised if I am recalled to Paris, as the business cannot go on otherwise.

I wait for an answer from England.

Eugenie writes me word she has seen Barthelemy iagain, who told her there was not the smallest complaint against me of any kind, but everything arose from *ie terns qui courre,* which makes it dangerous moving any way. Perhaps Fontainebleau is safer soil; for Paris grows red, and quivers like the soil of a hill near Naples.

Lobsters of a sky-colour abound, and stretch out their claws; everybody wonders when

they will pinch.